

## What should I do in case of an emergency or overdose?

In case of overdose, call your local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. If the person taking this medication collapses or is not breathing, call local emergency services at 911.

## What other information do I need to know about Descovy?

- Do not let anyone else take your medication.
- Ask your pharmacist if you have any questions about refilling your prescription.
- Write a list of all of your prescription and over-the-counter medicines, as well as any vitamins, minerals, or other dietary supplements you use.
- Bring your medication list with you each time you visit a doctor or if you are admitted to a hospital. Keep your medication list with you in case of an emergency.

## What do I need to do if I stop taking my medication?

If you stop taking Descovy for any reason, please inform your PrEP coordinator at the health center.

### IMPORTANT

***Your protection from HIV infection will wane over 7-10 days after ceasing daily PrEP use. Use alternative methods of disease prevention to reduce your risk for acquiring HIV.***

***Patients known to be infected with hepatitis B must be closely monitored with discontinuing PrEP.***



COUNTY HEALTH  
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## HIV PREVENTION PROGRAM

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## HIV PREVENTION

# PrEP

Just one pill a day.



**Descovy**<sup>®</sup>

emtricitabine 200mg/  
tenofovir alafenamide 25mg tablets  
for **PrEP** pre-exposure prophylaxis

# You're taking an important step toward protecting yourself against acquiring HIV.

## THE MEDICATION YOU WILL BE TAKING FOR PrEP IS:

BRAND NAME

**Descovy**  
des KOH vee

GENERIC NAME

**EMTRICITABINE AND  
TENOFVIR ALAFENAMIDE**



## Descovy is not for everyone.

*Descovy is not for use in people assigned female at birth who are at risk of getting HIV from vaginal sex. Its effectiveness has not been studied for this group.*

## COMMON QUESTIONS

### What is Descovy (PrEP)?

Descovy is a medication that is used to prevent HIV infection. When you take Descovy to prevent HIV infection, doctors refer to this use as pre-exposure prophylaxis or PrEP.

### How does Descovy help prevent HIV infection?

HIV is a virus that attacks your body's immune cells, the cells that work to fight infections. The two medications that make up Descovy, emtricitabine and tenofovir, block important pathways that viruses use to set up infection.

It takes seven days to build protective levels of Descovy PrEP in anal and rectal tissues.

*After you've taken Descovy long enough to achieve protection, you'll need to **continue taking it daily, preferably the same time every day, in order for it to provide protection against HIV infection.***

### How should I take my medication?

- Take one tablet of Descovy by mouth every day.
- Follow the directions on your prescription label carefully, and ask your doctor or pharmacist to explain any part you do not understand.
- When your supply of Descovy starts to run low, contact your doctor or pharmacist to get more.
- Do not stop taking Descovy without talking to your doctor.

*You may be at higher risk of becoming infected with HIV if you miss doses or stop taking Descovy than if you take it every day.*

### Do I need to follow any special diet while on PrEP?

Continue your normal diet unless your doctor tells you otherwise.

### What should I do if I forget a dose?

If you forget to take a dose of Descovy, take the missed dose as soon as you remember it. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and continue your regular dosing schedule.

*Do not take a double dose of Descovy to make up for a missed dose.*

### Does my medication have any side effects?

You may experience side effects while taking Descovy. Side effects usually fade during the first month of taking this medication.

Common side effects:

- diarrhea
- headache
- fatigue
- stomach pain

Tell your doctor if any of these symptoms are severe or do not go away.

Call your doctor immediately if you have any unusual problems while taking this medication, or if you have fever or chills especially with sore throat, cough, rash or other signs of infection.

### How should I store my medication?

- Descovy should be stored in the container it came in, tightly closed, and out of reach of children.
- Store Descovy at room temperature, away from excessive heat and moisture.

*Store Descovy between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).*

*Dispose of medication that is outdated or not being used. Talk to your pharmacist about proper disposal.*